



Service-learning as a path to career development

Lillian Wichinsky Ph.D., LMSW

Executive Director

UALR Community Connection Center



Service-learning vs Volunteerism



Service-learning

Service-learning is a method of encouraging student learning and development through active participation in thoughtfully organized service that is conducted in, and meets the needs of, a community.

It involves an elementary school, secondary school, institution of higher education, or community service program, along with the community.

Service-learning has an academic context!

Volunteerism

Volunteerism is the engagement of students in activities where the primary emphasis is on the service being provided and the primary intended beneficiary is clearly the service recipient.



Service-learning

- ❖ Service-learning is based on a reciprocal relationship.
- ❖ The objectives of the class are tied to the service-learning experience.
- ❖ Integrating the service being performed and classroom learning is a natural extension of the interdisciplinary nature of community service and operates under the same premise as other school-to-work components.

Real World, Hands on Learning

Key Elements:

- ❖ Integrated Curriculum
- ❖ Time for Reflection
- ❖ Building Community Partnerships
- ❖ Diverse Activities

Benefits

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- ❖ Active Learning
 - ❖ Working with Diverse Populations
 - ❖ Younger Participants
 - ❖ School and Community Support
 - ❖ Improved Citizenship and Self-Esteem
 - ❖ Service learning helps students learn both academic and life skills

Benefits

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- ❖ Positive effect on student personal development such as sense of personal efficacy, personal identity, spiritual growth and moral development
 - ❖ Positive effect on reducing stereotypes and facilitating cultural and racial understanding
 - ❖ Service-learning may subvert as well as support course goals of reducing stereotyped thinking and facilitating cultural and racial understanding.
 - ❖ Service-learning has a positive effect on sense of social responsibility and citizenship skills.
 - ❖ Service-learning has a positive effect on commitment to service



Benefits for Career Development



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- ❖ Students and faculty report that service-learning has a positive impact on students' academic learning
 - ❖ Students and faculty report that service-learning improves students' ability to apply what they have learned in the "real world"
 - ❖ Service learning has an impact on critical thinking, problem analysis, cognitive development
 - ❖ Service learning contributes to career development
 - ❖ Service learning improves student satisfaction with college
 - ❖ Students involved in service-learning are more likely to graduate



Effective Practice

- ❖ Laying the foundation with your community partners
- ❖ Set clear expectations with students
- ❖ Don't expect everything to go right!
- ❖ Reflection (the key component)

[http://www.generationon.org/files/flatpage/files/checklist of reflection activities.pdf](http://www.generationon.org/files/flatpage/files/checklist%20of%20reflection%20activities.pdf)

- ❖ Journaling
- ❖ Poetry
- ❖ Songs
- ❖ Storytelling
- ❖ Art work
- ❖ Videos
- ❖ Photo's....

Reflection

- ❖ Without reflection, service-learning has little merit as an instructional tool.
- ❖ It is through the process of structuring and guiding a student's reflective process where teachers can help students extract lessons from their community experiences.
- ❖ Reflection is generally considered to be the most critical step in linking the service & learning components of a service-learning course.

Creating a Syllabus

<http://compact.org/resource-type/syllabi/>

<http://www.highpoint.edu/servicelearning/sample-syllabi/>

<https://www.cpcc.edu/service-learning/faculty-staff/service-learning-syllabi>

Faculty Service-Learning Modules:

Awesome Resource

<http://www.fresnostate.edu/academics/cesl/facultysl/index.html>

Helpful Websites

<http://mncampuscompact.org/cli/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2014/07/Reflection-Activities-for-All-Classrooms.pdf>

<http://compact.org/>

https://www.uvm.edu/~dewey/reflection_manual/

Examples

Project Ideas

Examples from UALR

To learn more:

Email: lcwichinsky@ualr.edu

SL Academy: edhart@ualr.edu

Phone: 501-569-8292